

June 22, 2008

Mr. Charles Terreni
Chief Clerk and Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Docketing Department
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

SC PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

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Re: Docket 2008-196-E, SCE&G rate increase for new nuclear reactors

Dear Mr. Terreni,

I am writing to the Public Service Commission concerning the request by South Carolina Electric & Gas for permission from the PSC "to conduct initial clearing, to excavate and to perform construction work" in order to start building two new nuclear reactors at the company's V.C. Summer site in Jenkinsville, South Carolina.

As the company has not demonstrated a need for the two new reactors and no decision has been made by the PS about the prudence of them, I believe that it is premature for the PSC to approve the request by SCE&G to start clearing the site for the new reactors. The PSC is already considering a request from SCE&G to dramatically increase our rates based on the cost of the reactors and any decision on site clearance and construction should not be made until the rate decision is made, which would be until February 2009.

Although SCE&G has presented a fast timeline for building the reactors, what should take precedence is the interest of rate payers and the public. There is simply no urgency in considering SCE&G's construction request at this time. Given the importance of this process to both South Carolina and the nation and its long-term rate impact, the PSC should proceed cautiously and with much deliberation in considering any request for construction of costly nuclear reactors. The PSC must not be pushed into the premature decision that SCE&G is seeking and should only consider the request as the rate hearing process unfolds. If not, a hearing on this matter is justified.

Thank you for considering my views in this matter. As an SCE&G rate payer who will bear the cost of new nuclear reactors, I urge you to give highest consideration to the views of the impacted public and ratepayers.

Sincerely,

Elaine Cooper
(print and sign clearly, with full address!)

Elaine Cooper

~~As requested, copies of these comments are being sent to:~~

3105 Dalloz Rd.

Columbia, SC 29207